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Office of Grain Investigations

GRAIN INVESTIGATIONS
RECEIVED

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE.

Washington, D. C.,
August 31, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 27:

AKRON:
The oats and barley varieties were harvested Monday and Tuesday. Nearly all the oats plats on the rotations were harvested during the week. The corn on the rotations and the varieties were cultivated for the last time Tuesday and Wednesday. The corn is tasseling and is making a fine growth. Precipitation for the week 1.83 in.

AMARILLO:
Rotations are threshed and the Grain Investigation plats are nearly finished. Milo and Kafir are growing nicely but need rain before they can develop very much further.

BELLEFOURCHE:
All of the remaining grain plats were harvested during the week. Nearly all of the corn plats tasseled. Total precipitation for the week was .60 in.

DALHART:
The small rainfall during the past week, of .25 in., fell in three showers, and has not been of any benefit to the crops. Cultivated crops are suffering and will probably fire in a few days unless it rains. The early mile is headed out. Some of the millet harvested yielded 3800# per acre.

EDGELEY:
The weather has been cool and dry and favorable for the maturing of crops. Barley is ripe and oats and wheat are beginning to turn. All grain is filling well. Corn has made good growth lately and is beginning to tassel. This crop is so late that in all probability only a small part will mature but from present indications it will make excellent fodder.

GARDEN CITY:
Rotation oats, barley and most of the wheat were threshed this week, also some of the variety grains. Oat grains are rather small and wheat is somewhat shrunken because of dry weather. Corn is tasseling and many of the plats are firing badly.

DICKINSON:
All grain and corn plats are making a remarkable recovery from the hail storm of July 11th, but of course will not get far enough along to mature. This storm, however, did some good in killing off the weeds, especially the Russian thistle.

HAYS:
Dry hot and windy weather still continues. The last rain of any use to the crops occurred on June 17. Corn is suffering extremely from both drought and insects. Other crops are also suffering but not so seriously as the corn.

HETTINGER:
The weather has been warm and dry but all crops are making excellent growth especially the corn which has grown about 18 inches during the past week. The milo and kafir, which were planted on the station, are not doing very well but may make considerable fodder unless damaged by early frost.

HUNTLEY:
The weather continues warm and dry. Oats on the rotations were harvested during the first of the week. The yield will be so light as to make it impossible to thresh these plats separately. Barley and wheat ripening and wheat promises to make a fair yield. Corn is tasseling and beginning to show need of rain. Mr. Cole visited the station on Tuesday. Profs. Atkinson, Cooley and Nelson, of the Montana station, visited the farm on Monday, coming down to attend the annual farmer's picnic, which was held on that day.

JUDITH BASIN:
The annual picnic was held on the 25th and it was estimated that over four thousand people were present. The winter grains that were left after the hail storm will be harvested in a day or so. Spring grains have been harvested with a mower and hauled off the plats. The corn plats and flax on rotations are reviving and at present look as if a fairly good crop will be harvested. The potato varieties are in good condition and are growing nicely.

TUCUMCARI:
The broomcorn in the CC plats is heading out. Flax in the variety plats is beginning to bloom. Favorable crop reports are being received vrom various parts of the county. Most of the farmers are expecting good yields from their crops, as compared with the last year.

WILLISTON:
Practically all of the winter grains in this vicinity have been

harvested and have turned out well. Much of the barley has also been harvested and good yields are expected. The first annual farmer picnic was held at the station Saturday, the 27th, and was well attended. Mr. Cole visited the station and pronounced the crop conditions as being somewhat in the lead over other stations visited.

NOTE: The Appropriation Bill has been reported out of the Conference Committee and is now in the hands of the Senate and House for final passage.

Grain Investigations

GRAIN INVESTIGATIONS
AUG 14 1912
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BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C.,
August 10, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 3:

AKRON:
The frequent light showers during the week have somewhat interfered with harvesting and caused the weeds to grow rapidly. Spring wheat is ripening slowly and Russian thistles are getting so large that they bother a great deal in binding. Total precipitation for the week .93 in.

AMARILLO:
The week has been hot and sultry, three showers occuring during the week. The work has been confined to disking, cultivating and all row stuff has been hoed.

BELLEFOURCHE:
The rains during the latter part of July have caused a second growth of grain on the plats that were mowed. Some of this grain has commenced to head. Precipitation during the week 1.62 in.

DALHART:
All crops are growing nicely. Sudan grass seeded May 2 has made heavy growth and is attracting a great deal of attention among the farmers. The prospects for a crop look much better than a year ago. Total precipitation for the week .77 in.

DICKINSON:
Mr. Cole visited the Station on Monday, July 29th, and found the rotation plats considerably recovered from the damage done by hail during the first part of July. Mr. Carleton R. Ball visited the Station on Saturday, August 3d.

EDGELEY:
Mr. Cole visited the station on Thursday and Friday and remarked that this station would probably produce a larger yield of grain than any of the other dry land stations. Part of the oats were cut Saturday and the remainder will be ripe the first part of next week. The wheat will be ripe about next Wednesday. All plats of grain are uniformly good though a small difference can be noticed in different rotations. The flax crop on Rotation 12 will be almost a total failure on account of the heavy stand of brome grass on most of the plats, and wilt is taking a good share of what did make a start. Corn was in full tassel on July 28. The wheat stem maggot is doing considerable damage this year on some of the plats. Rainfall for July 5.97 in. Normal for the month 2.40 in.

GARDEN CITY;
The weather the past week has been quite cool and damp with light showers occurring during nearly every night. Rotation kafir and milo were cultivated this week and are beginning to head. Corn has only partially recovered from the drought and does not look as if many ears would form, especially if more rain does not come soon. All early fall plowing has been completed. Mr. E.F. Chilcott visited Tribune, Kansas, this week and reports good rains north of Garden City and crops looking quite well. The wheat harvest is about completed in the state and threshing has commenced with prospects of an excellent crop in the central part of the state.

HETTINGER:
Mr. Cole visited the station on Wednesday and Thursday and Friday the oats on the plats were harvested. Thistles caused considerable trouble clogging in the binder, and several times more work was required to complete the job than would have otherwise been necessary. The general appearance of the cropsthroughout the north country is much better than was expected but south of Hettinger they do not look so well. Wheat is filling remarkably well.

HUNTLEY:
The dry land rotation field wheat, barley and flax were harvested. Rainfall .56 in.

NORTH PLATE:
The weather has continued damp and threshing could not be carried on. Weeds are growing very fast on all plats. The corn on the table has not made much growth but is now in the silk. Total rainfall for the week about one inch.

SCOTTSBLUFF:
All of the dry land grain was cut during the week. Brome plats of Rotations Nos. 10, 41 and 42 were plowed and all of the fallow plats were disced. On Tuesday, July 30, the Farmers' Day was held on the Experiment Farm and the meeting was well attended, between 250 and300 people coming out to see the work that was being done.

TUCUMCARI: Harvesting of the broom corn crop was begun on the continuous cropping plats Wednesday and indications are that there will be a good yield. Milo is filling out rapidly and will soon be ready for harvest. Cowpeas and corn are growing very fast.

WILLISTON: The week has been warm and dry and has proven favorable to the filling of grain, especially corn which is well tasseled now and silks are appearing. There seems to be no danger from rust now that the grain is so far advanced. No precipitation.

Grain Investigations

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C.,
August 17, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 10:

AKRON:
Spring wheat was cut on Monday and Tuesday and the harvesting finished on Saturday. Millet that was cut for hay was stacked Wednesday and Saturday. The earliest varieties of the forage sorghums are heading. Precipitation for the week .33 in.

AMARILLO:
Everything is growing rapidly including the weeds. Fall plowing was started during the week. The weather remains cool and pleasant.

DALHART:
All crops are growing nicely and most of the milo has headed out. The weather has been cool during the entire week. Total precipitation 1.38 in. Mr. Vinall, of the Office of Forage Crop Investigations, visited the station Saturday.

EDGELEY:
Harvesting has been in progress most of the week. A few plats remain to be cut. The second crop of alfalfa will be cut in a few days. Mr. Belz, of the Physical Laboratory, visited the station Friday. The farmers of this vicinity have threshed most of their winter rye and barley and report good yields.

HAYS:
The rains which occurred during the week came too late to help the corn very much but sorghums have been given a new lease of life and the chance to make some yield provided the remainder of the season is favorable. Milo has suffered the most from insects. The weather has been generally cool except during the first two days when the maximum temperature reached 101.

HETTINGER:
Practically all the grain in the county is now ripe and in some places shelling badly because of the shortage of binders. Many new granaries are being erected and before another season there will be many new barns put up in the place of the sod structures which have necessarily served for the past four years since the land was first filed on. Corn now looks very promising in some localities. Some of the business men of the town are shipping in a couple of carloads of dairy cattle from Wisconsin which will be sold at public auction to the farmers throughout the county. Total precipitation for the week .29 in.

SCOTTSBLUFF:

There has been but very little change in the weather of the last week, just rain enough to keep the hay wet most of the time. The wet weather is also keeping the corn in a growing condition but the indications are at this time that the frost will kill it before it matures. All of the first cut grain was wetted through the shocks and this had to be spread out, some of the dry land grain having been dried for the second time. The sugar factory officials are becoming very much interested in the farm and the work that we are doing, and some of these officials are here every few days. Mr. Farrell and Mr. Zook visited the station during the week.

TUCUMCARI:

Most of the week has been warm and dry with no precipitation. Milo and sorghum in the rotation plats are maturing quite rapidly and will soon be ready to harvest. A severe hailstorm and rain was reported from the eastern part of the country. The damage in the path of the storm was considerable to the growing crops. The Tucumcari Chamber of Commerce will hold an old fashioned basket picnic and barbecue on the farm on August 15. The Governor and other prominent men of the state have been invited. A very interesting programme has been prepared and a general good time and instructive meeting is looked forward to.

WILLISTON:

The week has been favorable to the development of crops although there has been more rain than absolutely needed. Harvesting on the station is progressing rapidly. The crops as a whole throughout the region are looking very good, but the hailstorms have been very destructive; in fact, it is claimed that they have been more destructive this season than any previous one. The station however has been fortunate in this respect and has escaped the hail thus far. Precipitation for the week .83 in.

BELLEFOURCHE:

All of the summer fallow and green manure plats were harvested on the 7th. The weather has been cool with little precipitation, .05.

NOTE: Under date of July 29th the Chief of the Division of Accounts calls our attention to a letter from the Auditor for the State and other Departments in regard to the use of Govt. bills of lading in making express shipments, and he requests that when the consignor has sufficient notice before hand of express shipments to be made that government bill of lading be requested for these express shipments in the same manner that requests are made for freight shipments. Of course in the case of hurry shipments this rule will not be in effect.

Office of Grain Investigations

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C.,
August 24, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 17:

AKRON, COLO.:
The winter wheat on the Rotation and Deep Tilling plats was threshed, the yields varying from 21.2 to 54.7 bu. per acre. Total precipitation for the week .39 in.

AMARILLO, TEXAS.
The week has been exceedingly favorable for all kinds of outdoor work and fall plowing was completed. The milo is heading, the corn setting nubbins and the kafir making a rank growth. The milo in the G.I. work is inferior to the crop of last year; in fact none of the sorghums are making the even stand so noticeable last year.

ARDMORE:
All the wheat, oats, barley and flax plats have been harvested during the last two weeks. Wheat promises to make a good yield for sod land. Barley and oats very short, but were of sufficient length to be harvested with the binder and separate record will be kept of each plat. Corn, cane and broom corn doing nicely and so far have suffered very little for lack of moisture. Total precipitation for the week .1 in.

BELLEFOURCHE:
The oat plats were threshed during the early part of the week. All the yields were very low, varying from 5 to 17 bus. per acre. The corn was beginning to curl but a rain of .45 in. on the 17th revived it completely. Weather remains cool. Maximum temperature for week 88, minimum 49. Precipitation .67

DALHART:
The weather during the week has been cool with no precipitation. Milo planted after the hail is beginning to head. Corn is earing out much better than last year and will probably give a small yield.

EDGELEY:
Harvesting on the plats was finished on Monday. Threshing will commence as soon as the grain dries sufficient from the recent rains. The nitrogen determinations show that the amount of soluble nitrates is much lower than it was a year ago. It is as pronounced in the fallowed plats as in the cropped plats.

DICKINSON:
Cool weather has prevailed throughout the week with nearly a half inch of rain during the latter part. There has been considerable hail in the vicinity of Dickinson but none as bad as in the early part of July. Sixty-day oats in the station variety tests are commencing to ripen. Later varieties are completely headed out but do not look as if they would ripen for two or three weeks yet. Not any of the wheats are showing immediate signs of ripening. The earlier varieties of corn are silking quite profusely but the tassels are not very numerous. The fodder crop will also be very slim for the growth since the hail has been of a stunted sort notwithstanding plenty of rain.

HAYS:
The weather during the week has been generally cool with occasional showers amounting to .56 inches. Prof. A. M. Ten Eyck has resigned as Superintendent of the Ft. Hays Branch Experiment Station, his resignation to take effect January 1, 1913.

HETTINGER:
Total precipitation for the week .49 in. but this fell in several light showers so did no good for any of the crops. However the corn ground still contains plenty of moisture and that crop looks even more promising than ever.

JUDITH BASIN:
The winter wheat series on rotation were harvested Aug. 7 and threshed Aug. 17. The results are of no value as the hail almost destroyed the entire series. Corn and flax are making good growth and will yield fairly well. Precipitation .24 in.

HUNTLEY:
Nearly all of the grain has been cut and we are ready to begin threshing as soon as the weather settles enough for the grain shocks to dry out.

TUCUMCARI:
Part of the plats in spring wheat, oats and barley in the rotation plats were threshed this week. The best of the wheat made 9 bushels per acre, the oats 5.2 bu. and the barley 6.2 bu. On Thursday the 15th a Farmers Picnic was held at the station. The attendance was from 800 to 1000 people and much interest was shown by the farmers in the crops growing on the station.

WILLISTON: Weather during the week has been damp and cloudy and unfavorable for harvesting and threshing. All the rotation grains are harvested except the wheat on rot. #5 & #18 and flax on Rot. #12. The yield of barley was from 30 to 54.4 bu., and oats from 47.8 to 63.5 bu.

Grain Investigations

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C.,
August 31, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 24:

AMARILLO:

Three trips were made among the farmers in the vicinity and while some of the milo seen looked better than what we have on the station, taking the crops as a whole those on the station are much superior to what can be found close to Amarillo. The weather is windy and dry and unless rain comes soon kafir will be a lost crop to some of the farmers. Much of the milo will pull through without rain.

ARDMORE:

Corn ripening very rapidly and will be out of danger of frost within two weeks. Yield will be fair for sod land. Cane which was seeded with drill and not cultivated has suffered for want of moisture and will be harvested. The cane which was seeded in rows and cultivated has not been materially hurt by dry weather. Total precipitation for week .11 in. Maximum temperature 99, minimum 49.

DALHART:

Crops are looking well and give promise of heavy yields but are ripening very slow. The weather during the past week has been cool with .74" precipitation.

EDGELEY:

The latter part of the week has been hot and windy and all grain has dried well and is in good shape for threshing. All the oats have been threshed and the highest yield on the rotations was 80.9 bus. Precipitation .18".

GARDEN CITY:

The rotation kafir and milo crops have completely headed out and look quite promising. Watermelons which were raised on the station under irrigation are ripe. The weather has been quite comfortable during the week and the 1-3/4 in. rain of Aug. 14 together with several lighter showers has kept crops looking well.

HETTINGER: The Macaroni wheat and barley was cut the last of the week. Some of it was more than ripe but several plots which were fallowed last year ripened slowly and apparently filled in remarkably fine shape. In fact the wheat on most of these plats was so heavy that it commenced to lodge but not bad enough to prevent cutting. The winter rye did not yield very well as it shrunk badly because of very dry weather during the ripening stage.

NORTH PLATTE:

The last 3 or 4 days of the past week have been very hot, dry and some wind. Corn is suffering very much and the rank growth is demanding more water than the soil contains. There is some moisture underneath the corn on the plats but not enough to stand many days like the past 2 or 3 without injury. Sorghum sown broadcast is suffering badly.

SCOTTSBLUFF:

Most of the grain is yielding very well but it is all discolored on account of the rains that we have had.

TUCUMCARI:

The weather conditions for the week have been more favorable to crop growth than for many weeks. Maximum temperature 89, minimum 59. Precipitation .44 in. If weather conditions are favorable it is probable that several of the milo and sorghum plats will be harvested the coming week.

WILLISTON:

All the harvesting on the station is completed with the exception of a little flax and the corn. In the variety tests the best yield of oats was 120 bu. per acre and of wheat 53 bu. per acre. The best yields obtained in the rotations were oats 84 and wheat 43 bu. per acre. Precipitation for week 1.78", maximum temperature 86, minimum 53.

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